

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. 1. A method for testing a network service, the method comprising:
 2. sending an initial request to the network service;
 3. redirecting a related request sent by the network service to an actual network service such that the related request does not reach the actual network service;
 4. emulating operation of the actual network service; and
 5. returning at least one response to the network service being tested, the at least one response being responsive to the related request.
1. 2. The method of claim 1, wherein sending an initial request comprises
 2. sending a request to the network service being tested from a mock client.
1. 3. The method of claim 1, wherein redirecting a related request comprises
 2. intercepting the related request and rerouting it to a mock network service.
1. 4. The method of claim 3, wherein rerouting the related request comprises
 2. rerouting the related request by identifying a network address of the actual network service in a database and determining an associated network address of the mock network service.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein emulating operation of the actual
2 network service comprises emulating operation of the actual network service using a
3 mock network service.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein emulating operation of the actual
2 network service using a mock network service comprises identifying request
3 information in a database and determining a pre-configured response associated with
4 the identified request information.

1 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising prompting a user for
2 information to be used to generate the initial request.

1 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving a response
2 generated by the network service being tested, the response being reflective of the at
3 least one response returned to the network service being tested.

1 9. A system for testing network services, the system comprising:
2 means for generating an initial request;
3 means for determining what actual network services are needed satisfy the
4 request;
5 means for redirecting a related request sent by the means for determining such
6 that the related request does not reach an actual network service;
7 means for emulating operation of at least one network service; and
8 means for returning at least one response to the means for determining, the at
9 least one response being responsive to the related request.

1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the means for generating comprise a
2 mock client.

1 11. The system of claim 9, wherein the means for determining comprise
2 the network service being tested.

1 12. The system of claim 9, wherein the means for redirecting the related
2 request comprise a redirection service.

1 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the redirection service comprises a
2 database that correlates network addresses of actual network services with network
3 addresses of mock network services.

1 14. The system of claim 9, wherein the means for emulating comprise at
2 least one mock network service.

1 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the at least mock network service
2 comprises a database that correlates request information with pre-configured request
3 responses.

1 16. A system for testing network services, the system comprising:
2 a mock client that is configured to submit requests;
3 a redirection service that is configured to redirect requests sent out by a
4 network under test and directed at actual network services; and
5 at least one mock network service that emulates operation of at least one actual
6 network service, the at least one mock network service being configured to receive the
7 requests that have been redirected by the redirection service.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the mock client is further configured
2 to prompt a user for information to generate a request.

1 18. The system of claim 17, wherein the mock client is configured to
2 transmit the requests as extensible markup language (XML) messages that are
3 wrapped in simple object access protocol (SOAP) envelopes.

1 19. The system of claim 16, wherein the redirection service comprises a
2 database that correlates network addresses of actual network services with network
3 addresses of mock network services.

1 20. The system of claim 16, wherein the at least one mock network service
2 comprises a database that correlates request information with pre-configured request
3 responses.

1 21. The system of claim 20, wherein the at least one mock network service
2 is configured to transmit responses as extensible markup language (XML) messages
3 that are wrapped in simple object access protocol (SOAP) envelopes.

1 22. A test environment stored on a computer-readable medium, the
2 environment comprising:

3 logic configured to generate an initial request;
4 logic configured to determine what actual network services are needed satisfy
5 the request and transmit a related request to an actual network service;

6 logic configured to redirect the related request such that the related request
7 does not reach the actual network service; and

8 logic configured to emulate operation of the actual network service and return
9 at least one response to the logic configured to transmit a related request, the at least
10 one response being responsive to the related request.

1 23. The environment of claim 22, wherein the logic configured to generate
2 an initial request comprises a mock client.

1 24. The environment of claim 22, wherein the logic configured to
2 determine and transmit a related request comprises a network service being tested.

1 25. The environment of claim 22, wherein the logic configured to redirect
2 the related request comprises a redirection service.

1 26. The environment of claim 22, wherein the logic configured to emulate
2 an actual network service comprises a mock network service.